

Sinclair Broadcast Group's recent actions have illustrated the dangers to localism caused by media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I resent the efforts of the Sinclair Broadcast Group to try and control public opinion in this blatant fashion, almost as much as I abhor lackadaisical resistance to such maneuvers by those empowered to enforce broadcasting principles and protect the American people from the directive of a few media moguls.

Thank

you .